United States Department of Agriculture

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Weekly Weather Crop Report

Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service

Phone:601-965-4575
Facsimile:601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending June 6, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending June 6, 2004.** Although the excessive rainfall has continued to be problematic for producers wanting to complete planting or apply pesticides and herbicides, it has greatly benefitted pastures for grazing and warm-season forages. However, many producers worry that if the rainy weather continues, weeds, insects, and disease could start to become difficult to manage. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 57 percent adequate and 42 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	20	1	23	24	0	3	20	52	25
Cotton	Planted	99	98	97	99	2	4	27	50	17
	Emerged	98	94	91	96					
	Squaring	8	1	8	14					
Rice	Planted	100	99	98	99	0	1	23	61	15
	Emerged	99	98	94	97					
Sorghum	Planted	100	99	100	99	0	0	23	71	6
	Emerged	99	98	98	96					
Soybeans	Planted	98	97	93	93	0	4	18	55	23
	Emerged	97	95	87	88					
	Blooming	20	10	13	12					
Wheat	Mature	90	70	83	88	0	9	24	46	21
	Harvested	42	22	32	39					
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	85	75	91	94	0	13	14	56	17
(Warm Season)		18	14	28	24					
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	35	21	44	39	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	97	93	100	95	0	12	19	64	5
Blueberries						0	0	23	54	23
Cattle						1	4	19	58	18
Pasture						0	7	21	50	22

County Agent Comments

"Rain stopped all fieldwork last week. There is some wheat that needs to be harvested and some soybeans to be planted."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"Crops are growing very well due to the recent rains that have come to the county. It has been difficult to get hay harvested without getting rained on."

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss

"Rains have kept producers out of the hay fields. Many forages are on the verge of maturity. Soybeans planted the 1st of April look great; however, those planted at the end of April are struggling with wet conditions."

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin

“Flash flooding wiped out some cotton on the east side of county. If forecasts are correct for the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers, backwater will take out several thousand acres of corn, cotton and soybeans. The daily rains, great for pastures, have been tough on emerging soybeans and a hindrance to herbicide and insecticide applications.”

— Terry Rector, Warren

“Three days of steady rain improved the conditions of pastures and gardens in the county. Gardeners are having some problems with fungus due to the hot and wet weather.”

— Amanda Woods, Marion

“Fieldwork resumed over the weekend despite some showers around the area. There are reports of fairly good wheat yields even from fields with early drift problems.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Growers had a good week to harvest wheat and clean up crops. We need the dry weather to continue. Some parts of the county got some rain.”

— Don Respess, Bolivar

“Wet, muddy fields are making producers use aerial applicators to apply pesticides for weed and insect control, although high wind is a problem.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“The rain helped, but it came hard and fast. We now need it to dry up a little so that we can get side-dressing and weeds addressed.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Rainfall has delayed most field operations. Limited acreage remains to be planted and soybeans will probably be planted on these acres. Both crops and weeds are growing well. Drier field conditions are needed for timely herbicide applications.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“The dominant factor is excessive rain and saturated soil conditions. This situation is delaying all field operations, and in some cases, may cause losses of stand, particularly in cotton. At this time of year, replanting cotton is very risky. Soybeans and corn are tolerating the rain much better than cotton, but soybeans will suffer from saturated soil and reduced nitrogen fixation. Weeds, insects, and diseases may get out of control if we can't reenter fields with ground equipment very soon.”

— Ernest H. Flint, Attala

“Rain continued to put a damper on field activities. Some of the later planted soybeans will probably need to be replanted. From my observation on last Thursday, many of the recent-planted soybeans were under water. If the wet conditions continue, other problems such as weeds, insects, and diseases may get out of control.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“Excessive rain has caused the soil to become saturated. This is delaying all field operations, and may cause a loss in stands, especially for cotton. Weeds, insects, and diseases may get out of control.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“We were just about to dry out enough to cut some more hay when the rains came Sunday. This year's beginning of hay season is looking a lot like last year with continuous rainfall every few days. Pastures, however, are aggressively growing with the persistent rainfall events.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Significant rainfall and poor drainage is reducing soil oxygen and low-lying fields are yellowing. Few plants will be lost, however, if the rains will cease. Sweetpotato growers have some new herbicides in their arsenal to help control morning glory and pigweed, if the weather will allow for application.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

"Two-to-three inches of rain was received across the county for the week. Good growing conditions exist for row crops, trees, and pastures. Rains have hampered fieldwork, but crops are growing well."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

"Rains this week have saturated soils and have stopped all fieldwork. Some areas received 6-7 inches, with some flash flooding. Several roads were damaged and 7-8 homes received light water damage. Cattle look good and there is plenty of grass for grazing. Some fields will be ready to cut for hay in a week or two."

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

"We are enjoying great growing conditions at present and recent rains have our warm-season forage production back to normal."

— Mark Gillie, Greene

"Soil moisture is excellent!!! Pastures are being sprayed for weeds following recent rains. Spotted wilt is as high as 10 percent in some commercial tomato fields."

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

"We have ample soil moisture at the present time. Most cattlemen have plenty of grass to graze. Summer hay harvest will begin when weather permits. Many producers are applying fertilizer to pastures since we have some moisture and cattle are in good shape."

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

"Rain hampered fieldwork again throughout the week. We will need several days of sunshine before growers can return to the field. Crops continue to look good, but if rain continues, weed pressure will increase."

— Victor Lee, Newton

"Rains this week have prevented producers from working in the fields. The watermelon crop is on target for harvest within the next two weeks which will allow producers to have melons marketed before the July 4th holiday. Weed control is a major concern with producers at this point due to excessive rain and inability to get in the fields."

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

"The blueberry crop is in excellent condition, although mild night-time temperatures have slowed ripening and excessive rain has caused some harvest delays. Watermelons are beginning to show signs of disease. Corn should make high yields with the abundant rain. Cattle are in excellent condition as a result of abundant forage."

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director

Southern Regional Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Elizabeth Mons
Service Climatologist

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

Weather Summary from May 31, 2004 to June 6, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				74		3.99E	+2.74	2	11.35E				
Cleveland				76		1.39	+0.20	1	6.53				
Tunica				76		1.04	-0.27	3	5.40				0.33
Extreme/Average				76		2.14	+0.95	2	7.76				0.33
2. North-Central													
HickoryFlat	88	54	72	73	-1	2.39	+1.23	2	7.87				
Calhoun City	87	61	73	74	-1	4.27	+3.15	2	10.68				
Independence	87	56	72	74	-2	1.25	+0.06	1	4.20				
Oxford	89	57	74	74	0	1.95E	+0.77	2	6.78E				
Extreme/Average	89	54	73	74	-1	2.47	+1.28	2	7.38				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	88	59	74	73	+1	2.00	+0.80	3	6.08				
Iuka	85	51	68	71	-3	1.44	+0.34	3	4.79				
Ripley	87	54	71	73	-2	2.30	+1.18	3	6.95				
Tupelo	84	60	73			2.23		3	5.94				
Verona				75		2.31	+1.19	3	6.84				0.29
Extreme/Average	88	51	72	74	-2	1.99	+0.82	3	5.94				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	88	64	75	77	-2	2.27	+1.23	2	5.85				
Rolling Fork	91	60	76	77	-1	2.39	+1.34	4	6.52			70	
Stoneville				77		1.46	+0.45	5	6.67				0.27
Yazoo City	91	61	75	77	-2	2.97	+1.93	4	10.47				
Extreme/Average	91	60	75	77	-2	2.54	+1.45	3	7.61			70	
5. Central													
Canton	88	61	74	77	-3	1.98	+1.04	4	8.83				
Carthage	90	60	73	75	-2	3.05	+2.16	5	5.63				
Lexington	88	60	73	74	-1	1.68	+0.61	4	9.90				
Eupora	91	58	73	74	-1	3.97	+2.94	4	8.98				
Extreme/Average	91	58	73	75	-2	2.67	+1.70	4	8.34				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	61	74	74	0	4.34	+3.25	4	7.12				
Houston	89	56	71	73	-2	2.50	+1.24	4	6.18				
Louisville	89	58	72	74	-2	2.11E	+1.18	3	6.08E				
State University	91	61	74	75	-1	2.85	+1.87	5	5.86	84	74	77	0.23
Extreme/Average	91	56	73	75	-2	2.95	+1.90	4	6.31	84	74	77	0.23
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	91	55	74	77	-3	4.29	+3.07	4	11.97	90	72	81	
Natchez	90	65	76	77	-1	3.48	+2.31	5	6.88				
Oakley	91	51	74	76	-2	7.43	+6.32	4	18.35	88	74	81	
Vicksburg	89	58	74			4.80		4	14.62				
Extreme/Average	91	51	74	77	-3	5.00	+3.88	4	12.96	90	72	81	
8. South-Central													
Collins	89	67	75	75	0	3.49	+2.45	4	5.64				
Columbia	90	66	76	77	-1	3.15	+1.98	4	8.42				
Tylertown	89	65	76	77	-1	3.16	+1.98	4	9.78				
Extreme/Average	90	65	76	77	-1	3.27	+2.15	4	7.95				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	91	63	76			6.52		3	13.27				
Hattiesburg	88	62	75	77	-2	5.14	+4.12	3	10.81				
Laurel	90	63	74	76	-2	3.69	+2.74	4	6.56				
Newton	90	58	73	75	-2	3.02	+2.18	4	4.65	87	70	76	0.22
Extreme/Average	91	58	75	76	-1	4.59	+3.66	4	8.82	87	70	76	0.22
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	91	65	78	78	0	0.77	-0.30	4	6.63				
Gulfport	89	68	78	79	-1	3.02	+1.87	5	9.63				
Pascagoula				76		2.25E	+0.99	5	4.48E				
Poplarville	88	66	76	78	-2	3.78	+2.71	4	10.93	90	67	79	0.26
Waveland	90	67	79	77	+2	4.04	+2.89	5	10.93				
Extreme/Average	91	65	78	78	0	2.77	+1.62	5	8.52	90	67	79	0.26
State	91	51	74	76	-2	3.20	+2.12	4	8.38			77	0.27

DFN = Departure from Normal.